60,130-1192 00MRA0031

REMARKS

Claims 7 and 19 are amended above. New claims 22 and 23 are added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application.

Proposed drawing corrections are made to Figures 1 and 3 to address the objection to the drawings raised in the most recent Office Action. The drive unit motor 8 and gear portion 9 are schematically shown in phantom within the housing 11. Similarly, the control electronics 13 are shown in phantom within the housing in those two figures. No new matter has been added. The specification clearly describes the portions 8 and 9 as containing a motor and a gear portion. Figures 2 and 4 clearly show a printed circuit board (i.e., control electronics) 13 supported by the housing 11. The additions to Figures 1 and 3 merely clarify and label what was shown in order to clarify the drawings for the Examiner.

The rejection of claims 7-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112 is addressed by the amendment to claim 7.

Applicant again respectfully traverses the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 based upon the combination of Seeberger, et al. in view of Yamashita. Applicant has already pointed out, in the previously filed Appeal Brief for example, how there is no prima facie case of obviousness because there is no motivation for making the combination. Applicant respectfully urges the Examiner to withdraw the rejection now rather than forcing Applicant to wait for the Board to reverse the rejection on appeal.

With regard to claims 19-21, Applicant has amended claim 19 to incorporate the limitations previously presented in the preamble within the body of the claim to clarify

60,130-1192 00MRA0031

the difference between the claimed invention and the unnamed references mentioned by the Examiner in the most recent Office Action.

This case is in condition for allowance. This application has been pending at the Patent Office for 2½ years. Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance as soon as possible.

Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS

ВÀ:

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Dated: February 5, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (703) 872-9306) on February 5/2004.

Theresa M. Palmateer

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